DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 343 983 UD 028 606

AUTHOR Nguyen-Hong-Nhiem, Lucy, Ed.; Halper, Joel Martin, Ed.

TITLE The Far East Comes Near: Autobiographical Accounts of Southeast Asian Students in America.

REPORT NO ISBN-0-87023-672-5
PUB DATE 89
NOTE 224p.
AVAILABLE FROM University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst, MA 01004.
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020) -- Viewpoints (Opinion/Position Papers, Essays, etc.) (120)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Acculturation; *Asian Americans; Autobiographies; Cambodians; *College Students; Cultural Differences; Essays; Higher Education; *Immigrants; *Laotians; *Personal Narratives; Political Attitudes; Refugees; Relocation; *Vietnamese People

ABSTRACT

This publication provides autobiographical essays by students originally from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, all of whom arrived in the United States as refugees between 1975 and 1982. Following an introduction is an initial essay, "Becoming a Refugee, Being a Refugee, Ceasing To Be a Refugee," by L. Nguyen-Hong-Nhiem. The student essays are organized according to ethic groups and arranged chronologically. They focus on life in the home countries, and manner of escape, and the experiences in America. Essays by students from Vietnam include: (1) "Memories from the Past" (D. M. Bang); (2) "Memories" (T. M. Tri); (3) "We Are Killing Our Own Brothers, Our Souls" (T. T. Sanh); (4) "Not Too Young To Understand Communism" (P. H. Thanh); (5) "Hopes of a Better Life" (N. H. Anh); (6) "An Image of Home" (N. V. Nhan); (7) "The Price of Freedom" (H. H. Hieu); (8) "A Terrifying Escape" (L. T. Si); (9) "A Tragic Voyage" (D. H. Loan); (10) "A Vietnamese-Born Chinese" (L. Phu); and (11) "Separation and Reunion" (N. H. Chung). The following essays are written by students from Cambodia: (1) "My Life Structure" (P. Khath); (2) "My Unforgettable Experiences" (R. Chea); (3) "My Personal Experience" (B. Sun); (4) "My Life in Cambodia and the United States" (C. Ros); (5) "My Best Memories" (H. Taing); (6) "The Khmer Rouge--Murderers" (M. Gray); (7) "Despair and Hopelessness" (S. Kouch); (8) "My Bloody Nightmare" (H. Kouch); (9) "Migrating to America" (V. Lim); and (10) "From the Killing Fields to Greenfield: The Story of Chard Houn" (M. Hartshorne). The following essays are written by students from Laos: (1) "Left Empty and Longing" (N. Pathammavong); (2) "One Last Long Look at My Country" (C. Chanthavong); (3) "New Hope for a Disheartened Refugee" (C. Souvanna); (4) "A Change of Cultures" (L. Inthirath); and (5) "A Poem: Tet Ly Huong--Away from Home at Tet" (N. H. Anh). A final essay is titled "Commentary: Human Destructiveness and the Refugee Experience" (E. Staub). Notes on the authors are included. (JB)